

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, SCUL, JA, US, TGEN

SUBJECT: JAPANESE BOOKS AND DOCUMENTS IN THE US

REF: A) TOKYO 2847

B) STATE 070005

THERE FOLLOWS A REVIEW OF VARIOUS MATTERS RELATING TO
JAPANESE BOOKS AND DOCUMENTS IN THE US:

1. ATOMIC BOMB DOCUMENTS (REF A): NATIONAL ARCHIVES HAS PROVIDED A NUMBER OF JAPANESE OFFICIALS AND INVESTIGATORS COPIES OF THE PUBLISHED INDEX TO THE US STRATEGIC BOMBING SURVEY WHICH CONTAINS REPORTS, WITH JAPANESE LANGUAGE EXHIBITS, ON VARIOUS WARTIME BOMBING ACTIVITIES IN JAPAN INCLUDING HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI; USSBS HAS BEEN RESEARCHED BY, AMONG OTHERS, THE TOKYO "ASSOCIATION FOR INVESTIGATION TOKYO BOMBARDMENT BY US AIR FORCES" WHICH RECENTLY PUBLISHED A FOUR VOLUME WORK DRAWING ON USSBS DOCUMENTATION. NATIONAL ARCHIVES CONSIDERS THE USSBS TO BE IN ITS ENTIRETY A USG ARCHIVE. ARCHIVES HAS ACCEPTED PROPOSAL BY MAYOR OF HIROSHIMA TO SEND A RESEARCHER IN JUNE, BUT HAS NO INFORMATION REGARDING NAGASAKI DELEGATION (REF A). NATIONAL
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ARCHIVES INDICATES IT PREPARED TO COPY ANY DESIRED DOCUMENTS

IN LINE WITH NORMAL POLICY. WE HAVE INFORMED GOJ OFFICIALS IN RESPONSE TO THEIR QUESTIONS THAT WE WOULD CAREFULLY CONSIDER PROVISION OF THE ORIGINAL JAPANESE DOCUMENTS SHOULD A FORMAL REQUEST BE MADE, BUT THAT WE DO CONSIDER

THE USSBS TO BE A USG ARCHIVE AND NOT NECESSARILY SUBJECT TO THE GENERAL RECORDS SCHEDULE FOR SEIZED JAPANESE RECORDS OF MARCH 23, 1956, WHICH REQUIRES THE RETURN OF ALL SEIZED JAPANESE DOCUMENTS IN THE POSSESSION OF THE USG.

2. LIBRARY OF CONGRESS COLLECTIONS: GOJ FIRST NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION OFFICIAL HIDEO DATE, IN WASHINGTON FOR CONSULTATIONS MARCH 15-16, EXPRESSED HIGH APPRECIATION OF GOJ FOR RECENT RETURN OF SOME 150 LEGAL SIZE DOCUMENT CONTAINERS CONTAINING RECORDS OF JAPANESE POLICE AGENCY AND ARMY. DATE STATED DOCUMENTS WERE BEING INDEXED, COMPARED WITH 8,000 TITLE LIST OF MISSING DOCUMENTS PREPARED BY PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, AND WOULD EVENTUALLY BE MADE AVAILABLE TO SCHOLARS. ON SEPARATE ISSUE, DATE NOTED LOC HAS COMPARED ITS COLLECTIONS WITH LIST SUBMITTED BY NATIONAL DIET LIBRARY OF 1836 TITLES OF BOOKS BANNED BY THOUGHT CONTROL POLICE WHICH DIET LIBRARY WOULD LIKE TO HAVE IN ITS COLLECTION. LOC HAS INFORMED DIET LIBRARY THROUGH EMBASSY HERE THAT IT HAS 781 OF THESE TITLES. DATE TOLD DEPT OFFICER THAT GOJ WOULD MAKE SHORTLY A REQUEST FOR RETURN OF THESE BOOKS. DEPT WILL CONSULT WITH LOC FOLLOWING RECEIPT OF REQUEST.

3. OTHER INTERNATIONAL OR USG COLLECTIONS: DATE CONFIRMED DURING HIS VISIT THAT INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST AND THE USSBS COLLECTIONS WERE OPEN TO ALL RESEARCHERS AND INDICATED GOJ "MIGHT" SEND SOMEONE TO EXAMINE THEM IN DETAIL. WE ALSO INFORMED DATE THAT USG HAD UNDER REVIEW THE OPENING OF THE FILES OF THE FAR EASTERN COMMISSION (WHICH CONTAINS NO JAPANESE DOCUMENTS) BUT HAD MADE NO DECISION ON THE CLOSED SCAP INTERNATIONAL PROSECUTION SECTION (IPS) OR ON THE CLASS B AND C WAR CRIME TRIALS OF THE IMTFE (BOTH OF WHICH MAY CONTAIN SOME JAPANESE LANGUAGE DOCUMENTS). WE REITERATED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO DATE THAT WE WOULD ENTERTAIN A GOJ REQUEST TO EXAMINE THE IPS FILES FOR THE PRESENCE OF OFFICIAL GOJ DOCUMENTS. DATE ASKED WHETHER USG HAD MADE AN OTHER PROGRESS IN LOCATING THE REMAINING DOCUMENTS IN THE 8,000 ITEM LIST SUBMITTED BY THE EMBASSY HERE IN SEPTEMBER 1972. WE INDICATED THAT OUR APPROACH HAS BEEN TO LOCATE COLLECTIONS RATHER THAN INDIVIDUAL DOCUMENTS AND TO OUR KNOWLEDGE THE ABOVE USG OR INTERNATIONAL COLLECTIONS WERE THE ONLY

UNEVALUATED SOURCES WHICH MIGHT POSSIBLY CONTAIN MATERIALS
OF INTEREST TO THE GOJ. KISSINGER

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